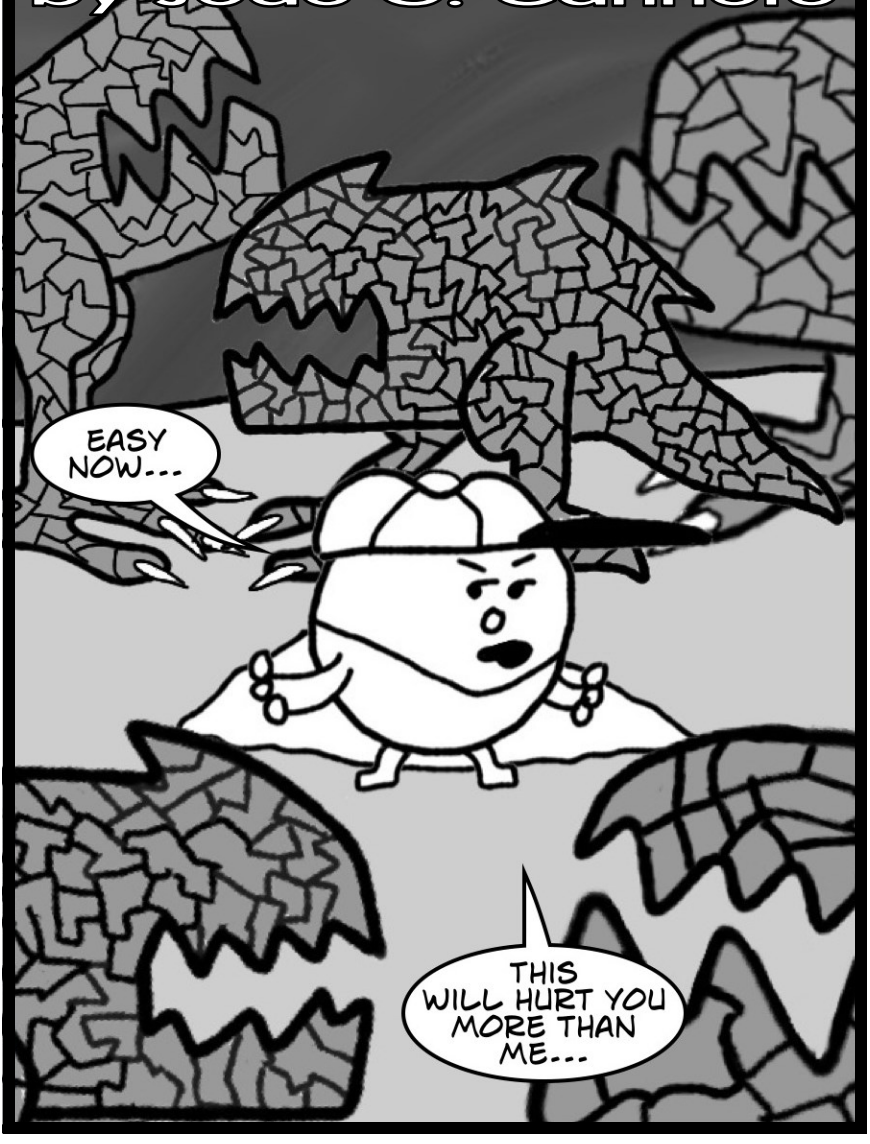
Metropolis: Yearbook #1

by João G. Canhoto



Metropolis Yearbook #1
Second Edition
2013

Metropolis
The web comic strip

by João G. Canhoto

First edition originally published on-line
by the author on April 8, 2011

This book is a synopsis of chapters 1 through 12
originally published on-line between
October 10, 2009 to October 10, 2011

Front and back cover: a depiction of the previously unseen confrontation between Super Yok and the kangarocks from Chapter 9.

Metropolis web comic strips can be found online at:

https://sites.google.com/site/metropoliscomicstrip/

joaogdcanhoto.blogspot.com/

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2013
Richmond, British Columbia, Canada

The Metropolis Yearbook #1
Updated and revised edition

It has been almost two years since this yearbook was originally released. I don't know why I persist in calling them yearbooks. I have not yet issued them on a yearly schedule. However, my goal is to release one every twelve chapters of Metropolis. I haven't yet put out twelve chapters in one year, but I hope that 2013 will change all that.

I was about to start work on Yearbook #2 when I thought that I should spend a little more time on the production quality of the yearbooks. This updated and revised edition features a new custom cover. It also includes Chapter 12, which the first edition did not. That, combined with this new introduction, comprises the complete list of changes to the updated and revised Metropolis Yearbook #1 . Yearbook #2 will follow shortly.

The year 2012 was very good to Metropolis. It was accepted to hang as an exhibit in two community galleries. The number of visits to the blog increased. This year I've also been able to increase my output. My goal for 2013 is reach Chapter 40.

Thank you to the people from 14+ different countries for your continued support. Wow. I have an international audience.

Please enjoy this book and I hope you continue to follow the strip on-line.

João G. D. Canhoto
March 6, 2013

(Original Introduction from first edition.)

Hello everyone. Welcome to the first Metropolis Yearbook. Yes, it has been more than a year. And yet, at the same time, there have not been twelve chapters either. At any rate, now is as good a time as any for a Yearbook.

All comic books have an Annual (at least, I think they still do), but this will be more of a synopsis of what has happened thus far in the story. This will be a yearbook in the style of the old G.I. Joe Yearbooks that Marvel Comics use to put out. Let's get started.

João G. D. Canhoto
Friday, April 08, 2011

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A recommendation from you is really helpful in promoting the comic.

Tip Jar

I hope you'll also consider sending me a "Tip" for my work. If you can spare it, any amount is greatly appreciated and I thank you. If you can’t spare it, then consider Metropolis a gift from me to you and your family and I hope you consider helping me out by some of the methods mentioned above.

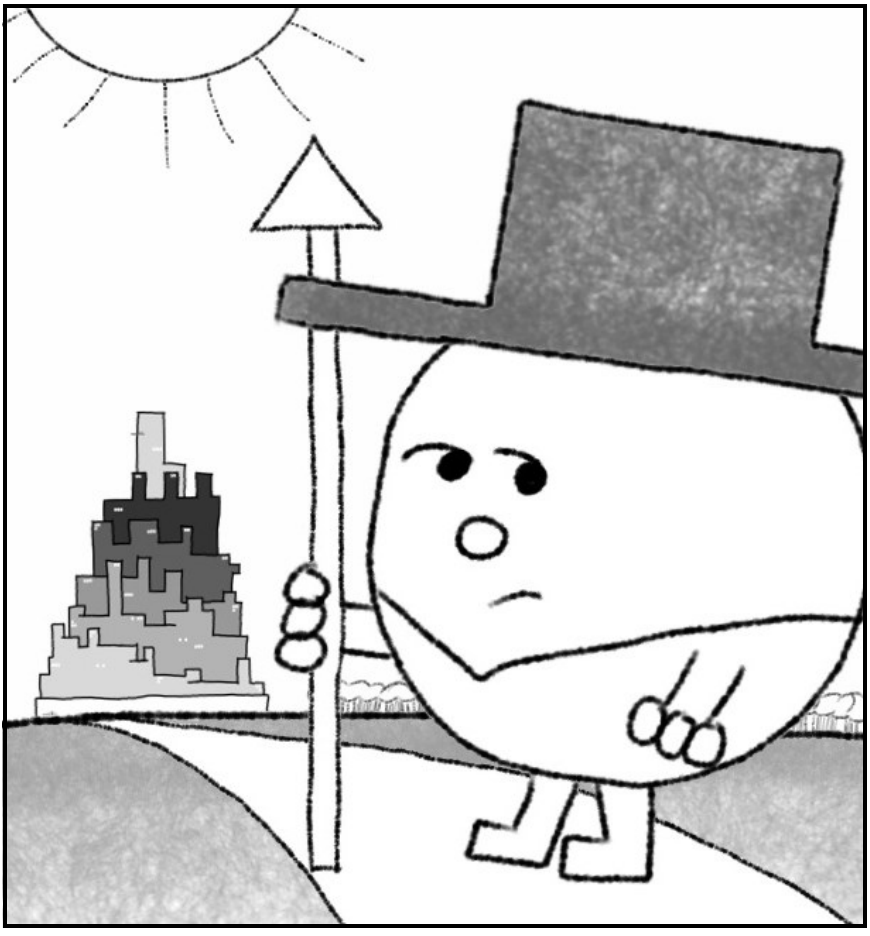
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Paying It Forward

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I will make the donation at least once per year and post the results of it on the Metropolis website. The first donation will happen during 2014.

Thank you for the support and have a great day.



Metropolis Yearbook

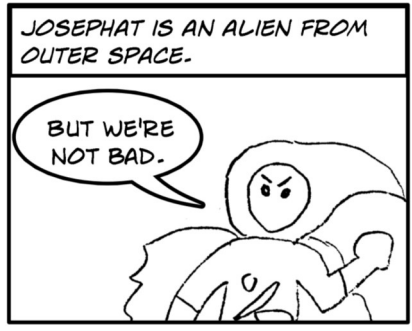
by João G. D. Canhoto

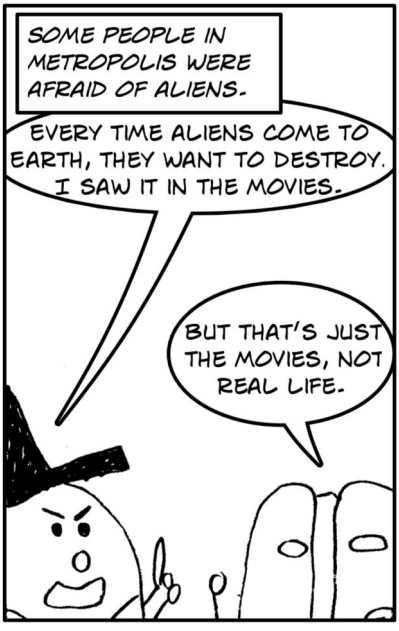
Chapters 1 to 12

Chapter 1

We begin by meeting Eg and Ge, citizens of the giant tower city of Metropolis. They are very close friends, despite what their names might imply, they are not opposites of each other.

Enter Josephat, an alien who immediately gets on Eg's bad side. Eg is a slave to media and assumes the worse about the alien visitor. Josephat also makes a big mistake and accidentally lands his ship on a farm. This is a big deal because there is a food shortage on the planet.





Ge is a little more level-headed, but this only further aggravates Eg. Eg ends the chapter with a very ominous statement: "This means war"! (Eg is very dramatic.)

Chapter 2

Josephat, perplexed by the lack of a warm welcome, makes a foreshadowing statement and goes off to look for some of the locals. Hmm. I wonder why he wears a hood. What kind of friendly alien wears a hood? Oh well.

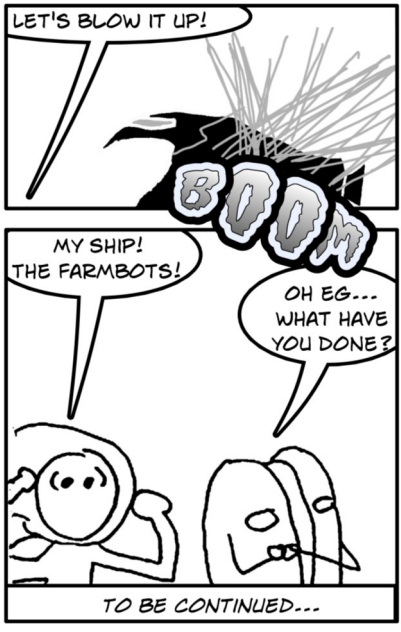




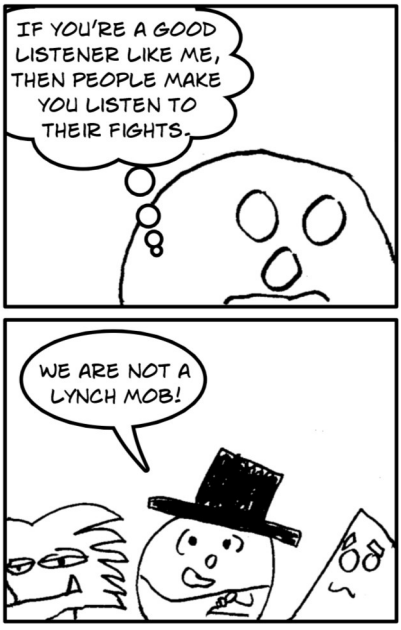
In the meantime, Eg has rounded-up some like-minded reactionaries (named Cobweb and Mustardseed) to prepare a welcome (other than warm) for Josephat.

At the same time, Josephat finds Ge. Josephat explains that he has come with a ship full of farmbots to help with the food shortage.

Eg enters the spaceship and finds the ship's hold full of farmbots, which he believes to be weapons of invasion! He decides that the best course of action is to blow up the ship and everything inside.

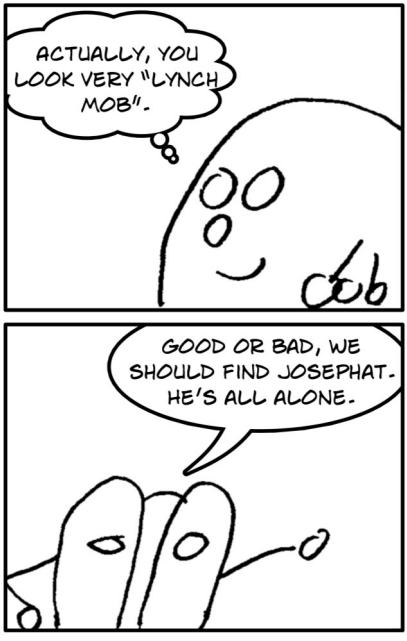


Chapter 3



After seeing his ship blown to smithereens, Josephat decides his next move is to run away and hide from the crazy people of Metropolis. Enter Mog. He's a good listener. He witnesses the debate between Eg and Ge on the motivations of aliens. Oh, and Mog doesn't talk. He just thinks… kind of like Snoopy or Garfield!

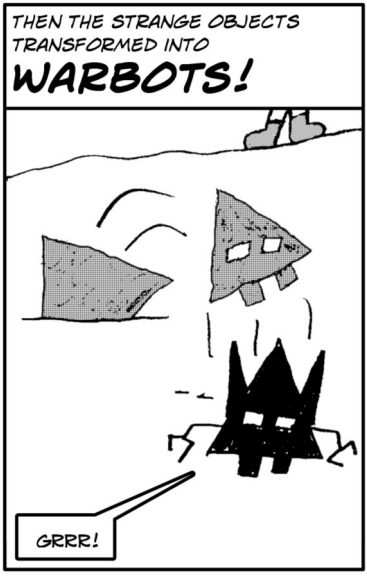
Josephat takes out his walkie-talkie (which I assume he keeps in that massive hood because there's no way he could fit it in his space tights) and calls for help from the mothership. Mothership? I didn't know there was a mothership too!



Chapter 4

Mog, Ge and Eg finally find Josephat in the forests outside of Metropolis. Ge tries to extend a hand of friendship, but Josephat now fears for his life. Eg lies about his involvement in the destruction of Josephat's ship and throws around some wild accusations.



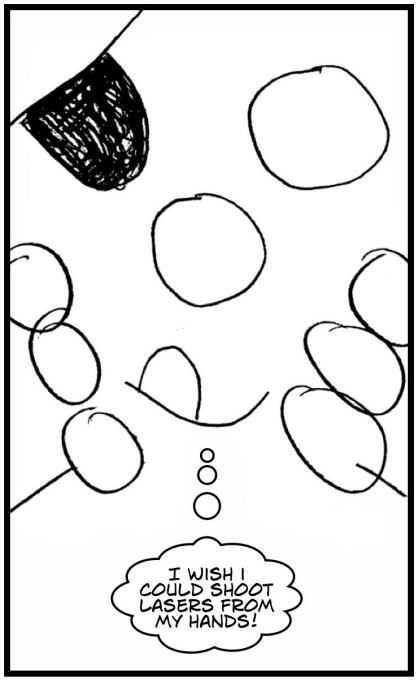


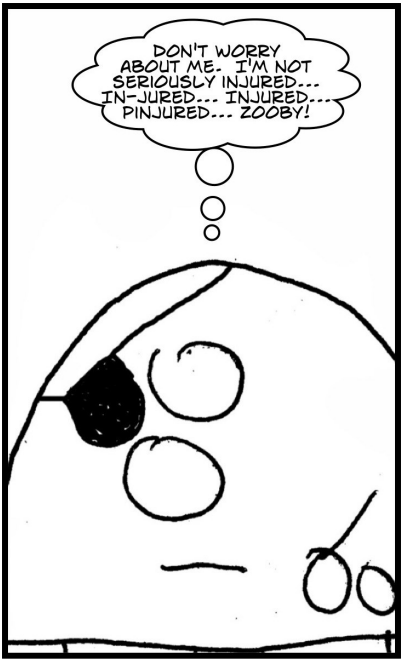
Before Josephat and Eg can really get into it, something falls out of the sky. It's help from the mothership. Unfortunately, help comes in the form of warbots, which are not very diplomatic. Josephat can see that trouble is about to begin.

Chapter 5

Trouble has come and gone. Mog tells us all about what happened.

The warbots decided that Mog, being as big as he is, was a threat. So they started shooting at him with lasers from their hands; which all agree is very cool. Eg and Ge escaped without a scratch, but Mog does not. Yes, they shot his eye out.



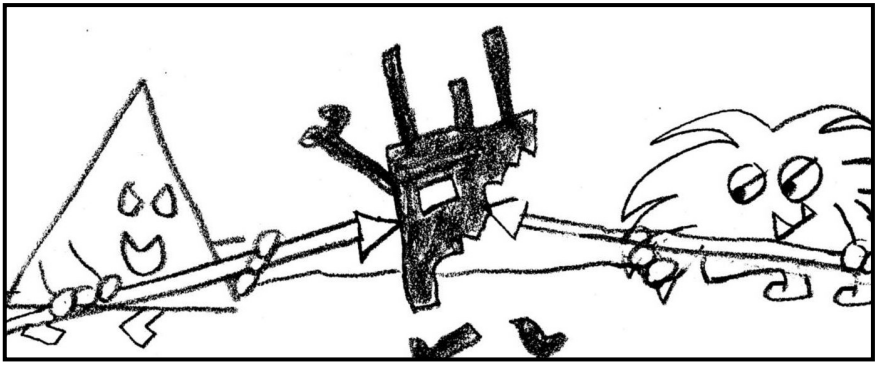


Josephat tried to stop it, but a warbot is very hard to turn off once it gets into a fight. The warbots run away with Josephat in tow into the safety of the wilderness.

So now Eg, Ge and Mog are back in Metropolis and Mog has to wear an eye patch. You don't get better from something like that. He'll have to wear it for the rest of his life. He should consider himself lucky that all he lost was an eye... And maybe a little piece of brain.

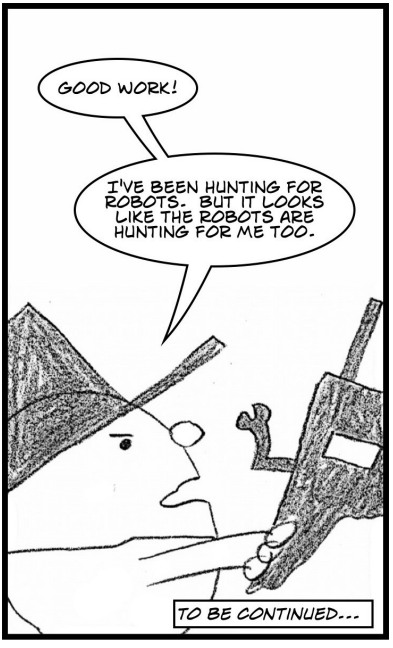
Chapter 6

Eg and his militia now patrol the area around Metropolis. It's been a while since anyone has heard from Josephat and his robots. Eg prefers to think Josephat is lying in wait and planning some dastardly attack on Metropolis as opposed to being lost and alone in a dark forest on a strange planet. If you tried to tell him that, I'd wonder if he'd



listen.

All that skulking in bushes seems to have paid off because Cobweb and Mustardseed have found a robot. They smashed it to pieces before it could be questioned. I think Cobweb and Mustardseed are a little trigger-happy with their spears... Can you get "trigger-happy" with a spear? Well, they're spear-happy then.



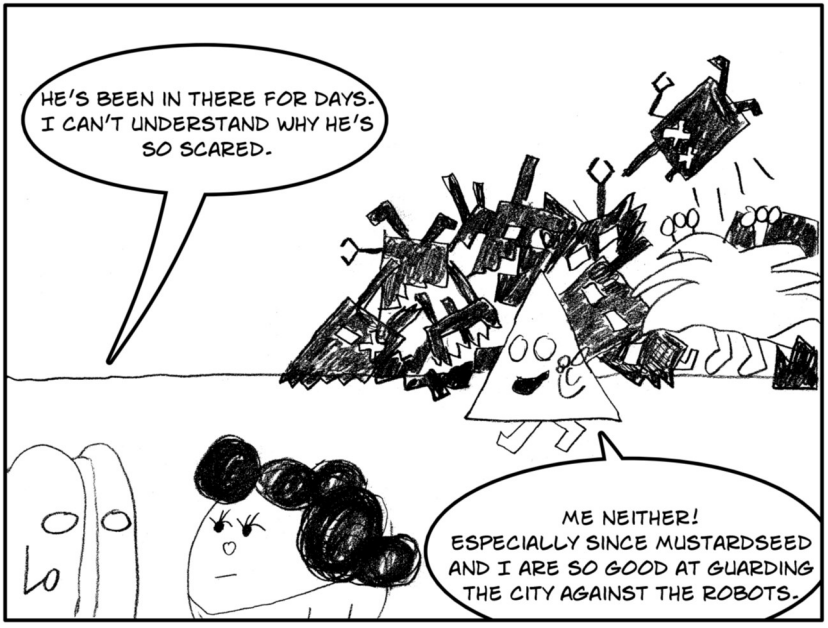
And now we learn that all aggression is based in fear. Eg feels certain that the robots are sent to attack him. Let's hope he doesn't get all paranoid about it.

Chapter 7

Eg has become so paranoid that he's decided to hide in his closet. Tepper, Eg's girlfriend (yeah, he's got a girlfriend) has come by to talk some sense into him. She and Ge are very worried about Eg's mental state.

However, Eg believes his fears are not unfounded. Cobweb and Mustardseed run patrols around Metropolis and every day they come back with another busted-up robot. Eg is certain that they are attack robots sent to kill him. Cobweb and Mustardseed seem to think it's a good idea to pile these broken robots in Eg's dining room.

Ge makes an off-handed remark about the different shapes of Josephat's robots. This prompts Cobweb to "let the cat out of the bag" about what really happened to Josephat's ship. It doesn't take Ge and Tepper long to realize that it was Eg who destroyed the spaceship.

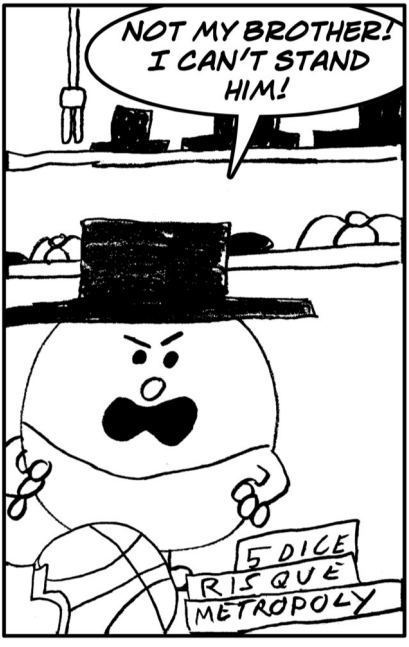


Chapter 8

Everything is going wrong for Eg. Strange aliens have come to his planet. His friends don't seem to share his trepidation. Another good friend has lost an eye. And now it seems like robots are coming to hunt him down! All he wants is some alone time in his closet. Is that so much to ask?

Eg remembers how he would hide in the closet as a child. He would speak to his imaginary friend and that would always ease his troubled young soul. Much to his surprise, the imaginary friend starts talking to him again. Who, or what, is that in there?





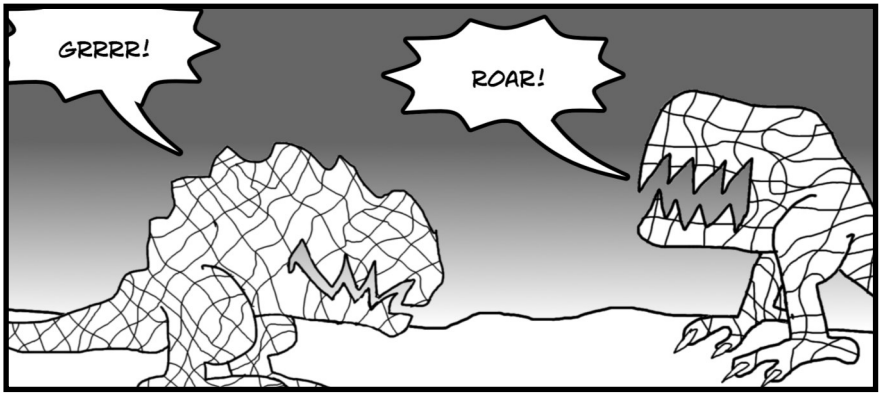
The voice informs Eg that all his friends know that he destroyed Josephat's spaceship. Eg's friends also want him to ask his brother for help to find the lost Josephat.

Eg has a brother?

Chapter 9

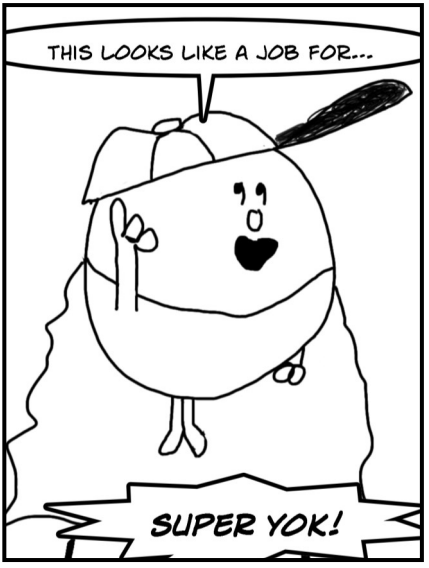
Eg, Ge and Tepper begin the long walk to Arboropolis; home of Eg's brother. Why are they walking there? Don't these people have cars on their planet?

During this long trip we learn a few things about Eg's younger brother. He has super powers; he can fly, he's super strong, and nothing seems to hurt him.



It's a good thing too, because the three friends run into the fierce predatory animals called kangarocks. Why on earth would anyone walk where fierce predatory animals live? Come on! Really?

Super Yok shows up to save the day!



Chapter 10

Eg, Ge and Tepper arrive at the giant tree city of Arboropolis. Mayor Rig Movely comes to greet them. Super Yok (off panel) is still battling the kangarocks.



Arboropolis has huge farms. This is where most of the food for the planet is produced. Metropolis, which only has a few small farms, relies on Arboropolis to supply it with food. Metropolis is a giant tower city. It has very little room for farming.

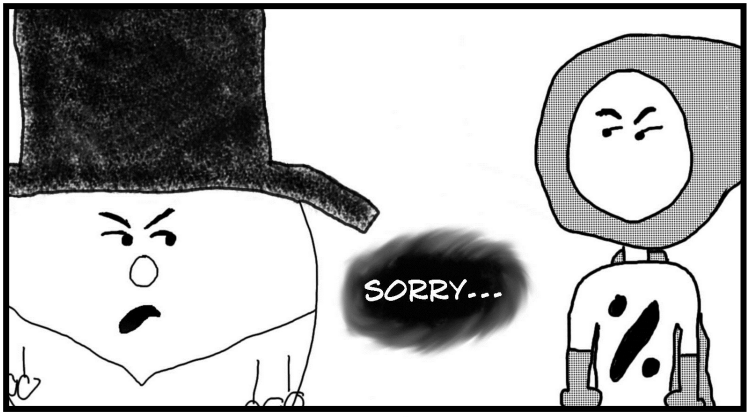
Rig has good news; they have discovered the cause of the recent food shortage. They don't get a chance to discuss it because Rig introduces the person who figured it all out! Eg turns hostile at the sight of the person.

Bet you a dollar you can't guess who it is?

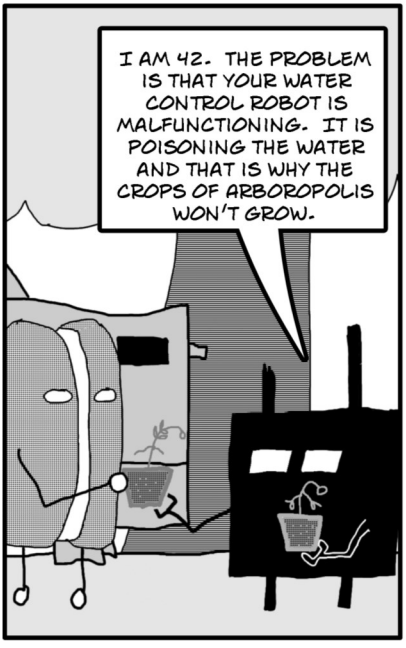


Chapter 11

Yes! It's Josephat! He and Eg look like they're about to fight, but Tepper intercedes. She scolds the pair in front of everyone. It was very embarrassing. The two issue less than genuine apologies.



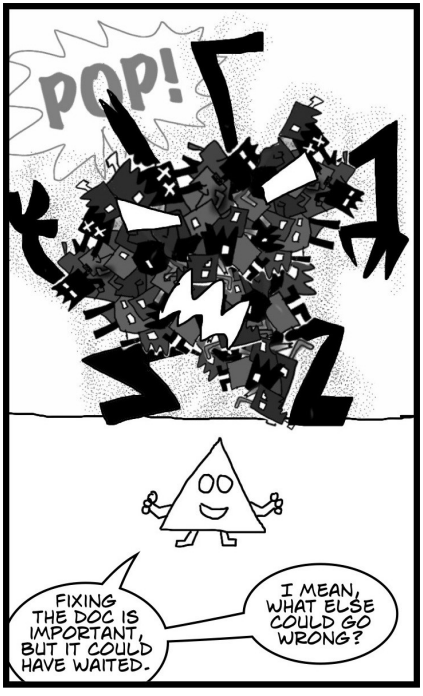
With that settled, Rig introduces 42. 42 is a farmbot with a broken antenna, probably caused by Cobweb and Mustardseed during one of their counter-robot patrols of Metropolis.



The little broken robot explains that the cause of the food shortage is a tainted water supply. Dr. Zeus, the water supply control robot, appears to be malfunctioning. The only people who can fix it are Eg and Josephat!

As it turns out, they are both robotics engineers. What are the chances of that?

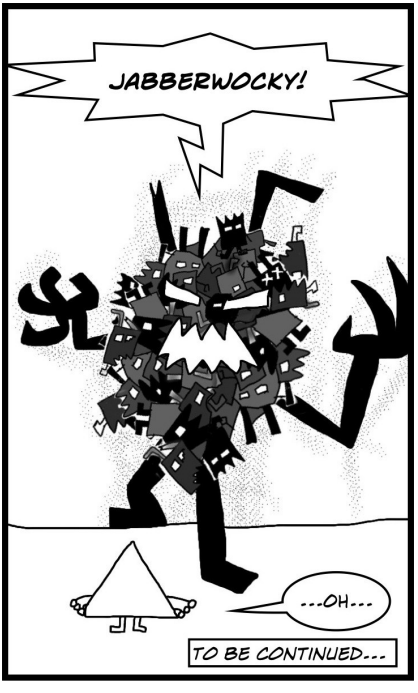
Chapter 12



Now we are back in Metropolis.

Here we discover that Cobweb loves the sound of his own voice to the exclusion of all other sensory input. It's a good thing that his best friend Mustardseed isn't much of talker .

Cobweb and Mustardseed, the ad hoc militia of Metropolis, have been given the task of cleaning up all the broken robots. Cobweb is bitter about having to clean up his own mess. However, even this simple task is not without its peril. With seemingly no explanation, Jabberwocky springs to life from the pile of ruined robots.



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- Tell a friend about it by email
- Tweet about the comic
- “Like” the Metropolis facebook page
- Subscribe to the Metropolis blog
- Leave a review on Smackjeeves.com or archive.org

A recommendation from you is really helpful in promoting the comic.

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I hope you'll also consider sending me a "Tip" for my work. If you can spare it, any amount is greatly appreciated and I thank you. If you can’t spare it, then consider Metropolis a gift from me to you and your family and I hope you consider helping me out by some of the methods mentioned above.

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Thank you for the support and have a great day.

Conclusion

There seems to be a lot going on. What's with the voice in the closet? Why is Dr. Zeus malfunctioning? Where does Josephat come from? Where is his mothership? What's a Jabberwocky? Where's Mog and how is his eye? Well, all will be revealed but only eight pages at a time.

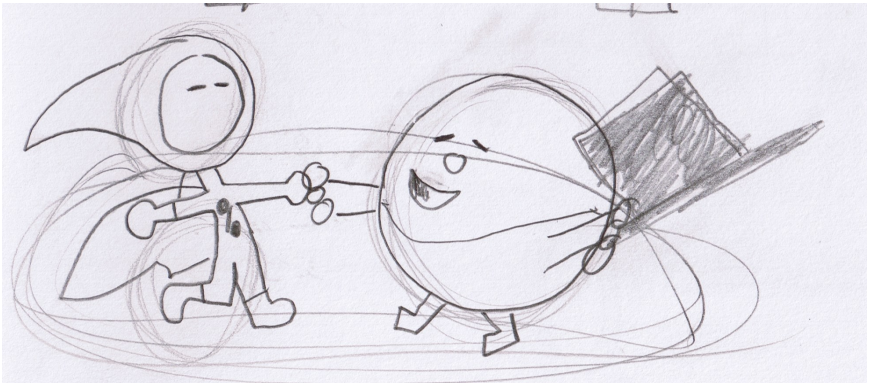
I hope you have enjoyed the continuing adventures of the citizens of Metropolis. I hope you print them out and share them. I hope you make your own comics to trade and collect with friends.

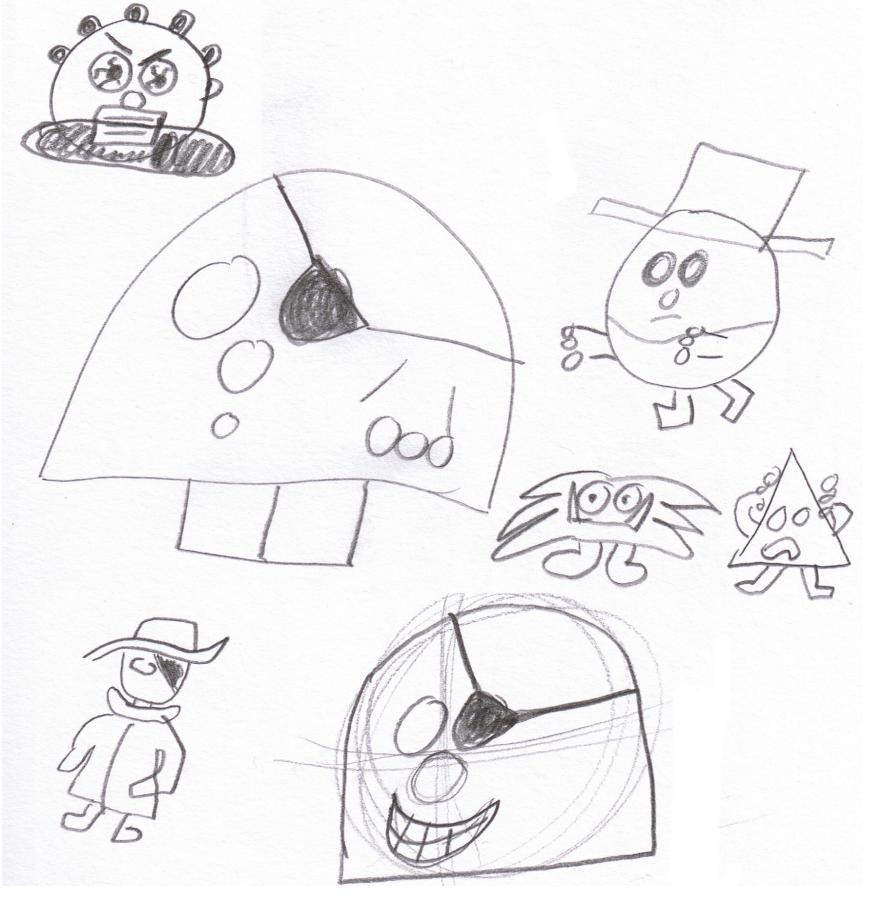
On a parting note, I am sad to say that new chapters will be less frequent. I've got a new full-time job and a baby on the way. But I won't give up! So if you are patient, I won't disappoint. In the meantime, I've included a couple of scans from my practice book.

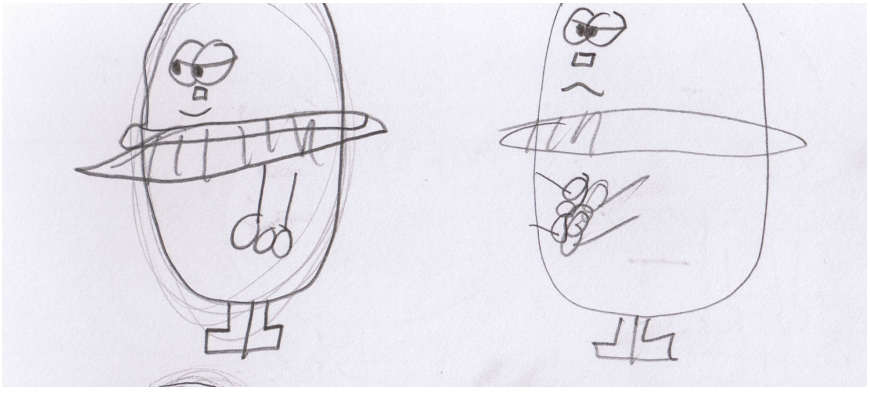
Have a great day.

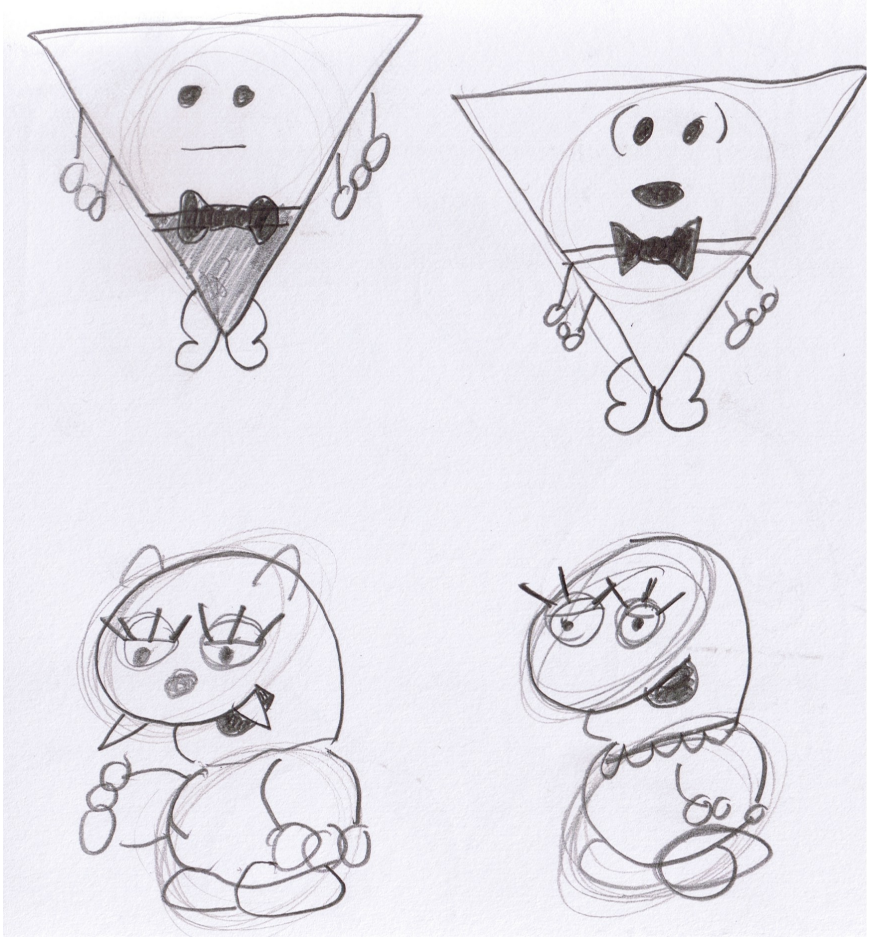
João Canhoto
April 8, 2011

(Addendum: My son Max is two years old now and he is a very happy and healthy little boy.)










I TOLD YOU.
THERE. DOES THAT FEEL BETTER?